U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Strategy for Facilitating and Securing Trade into the U.S.

FACT SHEET

U.S. Customs and Border Protection manages and secures our nation's borders. In the international trade arena, CBP enforces U.S. trade laws, facilitates compliant trade, collects revenue and protects the U.S. economy and consumers from harmful imports and unfair trade practices.

The **CBP Trade Strategy** is the agency's strategic plan for effectively facilitating the flow of legitimate commerce and enforcing U.S. trade laws.

Trade Vision

The CBP vision for trade is: *A swift flow of legitimate imports entering the U.S. marketplace, free from harm to the U.S. economy and consumers, through:*

- **Enforcement:** U.S. trade laws are enforced, with harmful and non-compliant cargo intercepted and deterred.
- **Facilitation:** Legitimate imports are identified and rapidly admitted to consumers and industry without disruption.
- **Partnerships:** Compliant and secure trade is ensured and supported by mutually beneficial partnerships.
- **Risk Management:** Emerging risks are mitigated through the development of actionable national trade policy.
- **Modernization:** Modernized processes and technology enable a streamlined import process.

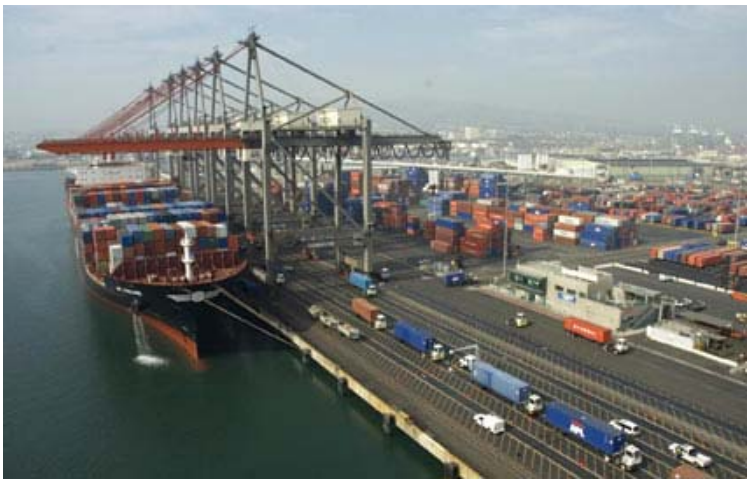
Strategic Goals and Objectives

The trade strategy presents four goals for the agency. The first three focus on improving CBP's ability to facilitate legitimate trade, enforce U.S. trade laws, and protect the American economy and people. The fourth goal addresses the unique enabling elements required by CBP to realize the benefits of modernization.

- **Facilitate Legitimate Trade and Ensure Compliance:** Ensure the compliance of the overall import stream and improve the speed at which legitimate goods are cleared into the U.S. commerce.
- **Enforce U.S. Trade Laws and Collect Accurate Revenue:** Apply consistent enforcement actions enabled by effective risk management and targeting and optimize lawful duty collection.
- **Advance National and Economic Security:** Protect consumers and the economy from harmful imported goods and unfair trade practices, advance U.S. government security and safety priorities, and strengthen national trade policy.
- **Intensify Modernization of CBP's Trade Processes**: Build organizational capacity to streamline processes, strengthen workforce skills, and realize the benefits of modernization.

Layered Approach to Trade Facilitation and Enforcement

A layered approach to trade facilitation and enforcement is of utmost importance to the successful achievement of these goals. it advances trade operations beyond the physical border by developing pre-entry and post-release verification programs, thereby reducing unnecessary delays at the border and increasing the quality of both trade and security outcomes. This comprehensive approach is a dynamic response to the nature of today's international trade environment.



For more information, visit the www.CBP.gov *Web site or contact the Office of Public Affairs at 202-344-1770.*

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Strategies

CBP will focus on executing strategies that will achieve the CTS goals and objectives

1: Facilitate Legitimate Trade and Ensure Compliance

High-Level Strategies:

- Leverage partnerships to ensure compliance through sharing of comprehensive advance information, participation in compliance improvement programs, and expansion of mutually beneficial arrangements.
- Investigate leading edge risk management and targeting technologies to improve identification and facilitation of compliant imports.
- Promote compliance in the pre-entry environment and verify compliance in the post-release environment, wherever possible.

2: Enforce Trade Laws and Collect Accurate Revenue

High-Level Strategies:

- Collaborate with partners to understand current and emerging risks, maintain comprehensive and responsive risk profiles, and improve targeting for non-compliance.
- Enhance the deterrent effect of enforcement actions, including a reformed penalty process to issue significant and timely penalties to correct non-compliant behavior.
- Enhance CBP's trade expertise through training and access to information.

3: Advance National

High-Level Strategies:

- Build a prevention-focused import lifecycle by enhancing tools that link trade data and providing a clear view of supply chain history.
- Develop tools and provide training that improves risk analysis, targeting, and inspections.
- Advance the security mission through regulation development, audit assistance, and optimal allocation of trade resources.
- Provide input to trade law development to encourage responsive, comprehensive, and actionable policy.
- Collaborate with other U.S. government agencies to clearly define roles and responsibilities and ensure a comprehensive enforcement ap-proach.

4: Intensify Modernization of

High-Level Strategies:

- Modernize processes and technology to integrate trade workflow, streamline the import process, and enhance delivery of service.
- Educate personnel on the practical application of trade laws, focus training efforts on priority trade issues and emerging high-risk areas, and expand access to information.
- Communicate within CBP and to stakeholders the benefits of modernization, implementation time-frames, resource requirements, and milestone achievements.
- Develop data management and quality assurance approaches to provide accurate and timely information to decision makers and stakeholders in support of implementation.

Benefits of the Plan: *This strategic plan will foster economic security, enhance the competitiveness of U.S. industry, and protect the safety and security of trade for American industry and consumers. It will improve CBP's ability to enforce trade laws and stop harmful imports, develop meaningful relationships with the trade community and other stakeholders, and result in a modernized organization that strongly contributes to lawful import of compliant trade.*

Copies of the full strategy can be found at
https://www.cbp.gov/document/fact-sheets/strategy-facilitating-and-securing-trade-us